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NRO review completed

[redacted] 9228-1-74  
Copy 6 of 12

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14 JAN 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, CIA Reconnaissance Programs

SUBJECT: Program Progress Report

Forwarded herewith are three copies of the IDEALIST  
Program Progress Report for the period 1 October 1973 -  
31 December 1973.



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WENDELL L. BEVAN, JR.  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Director of Special Activities

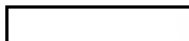
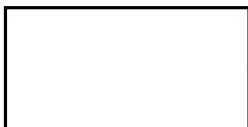
Attachments -

As stated [redacted] 6380-74)

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CLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF E.O. 11652, CATEGORY:
§ 5E(1), (2), (3) (one or more)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON
Impossible to Determine
(unless impossible, insert date or event)

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SAS/O/OSA [ ] (10 January 1974)

Distribution:

- 1 - D/CRP
- 2 - D/CRP
- 3 - D/CRP
- 4 - DDS&T Reg
- 5 - D/SA
- 6 - SAS/O/OSA
- 7 - D/O/OSA
- 8 - IDEA/O/OSA
- 9 - INTEL/O/OSA
- 10 - D/M/OSA
- 11 - AMS/OSA
- 12 - RB/OSA

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IDEALIST

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY AND STATUS

(1 October 1973 - 31 December 1973)

I. OPERATIONAL MISSION SUMMARY

Nine IDEALIST TACKLE missions were alerted during this period. Five of those alerted flew as scheduled;

Missions were planned to be flown no closer than 25 nautical miles to the China mainland coast. Due to Detachment "G" response to the Middle East crisis (FORWARD PASS), the "H" camera configuration were not available for Detachment "H" operations during the major portion of this reporting period (mid-October through mid-December). The following summary is provided for each of the TACKLE missions flown:

1. was flown in the Taiwan Strait area on . The mission employed the "H" camera system. All aircraft systems operated normally . Forty-seven of 71 programmed targets and eight bonus targets were covered during this mission.

2. over the south central China Sea. The mission employed the "B" camera system. No unusual activities or sightings were reported during this mission. However, a navigational error occurred which caused the platform to deviate from course to within 4 nautical miles of the mainland. . Fifty-six of 71 programmed targets and 17 bonus targets were covered during the mission. As a result of the navigational error, the pilot was removed from operational status for additional training.

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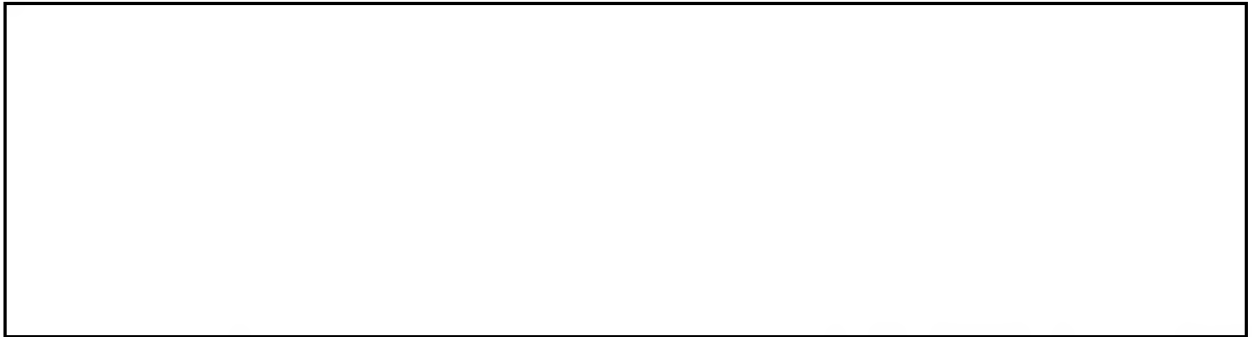
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4. On [redacted] was flown along the central China coast. The mission was flown to collect photo intelligence utilizing the "H" camera configuration. The route was flown as planned, all systems operated normally, and no unusual activity was observed. Eighty-one of 111 programmed targets and 26 bonus targets were covered during this mission.

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5. [redacted] was launched against targets along the north central coast of China [redacted]. The "H" camera system was employed. All systems operated normally during the mission; the route was flown as briefed and no unusual activity was observed. Ninety of the 99 programmed targets and 17 bonus targets were covered during this mission.

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II. [redacted] GENERAL

A. [redacted] FORWARD PASS - Detachment "G" deployed two aircraft [redacted] for potential Middle

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[redacted] Both aircraft remained in an alert status while deployed; however, they were not tasked to obtain photo coverage of the crisis area.

B. [redacted] - One aircraft [redacted] returned from Detachment "H" on 19 October 1973 to support Detachment "G" CONUS requirements during FORWARD PASS.

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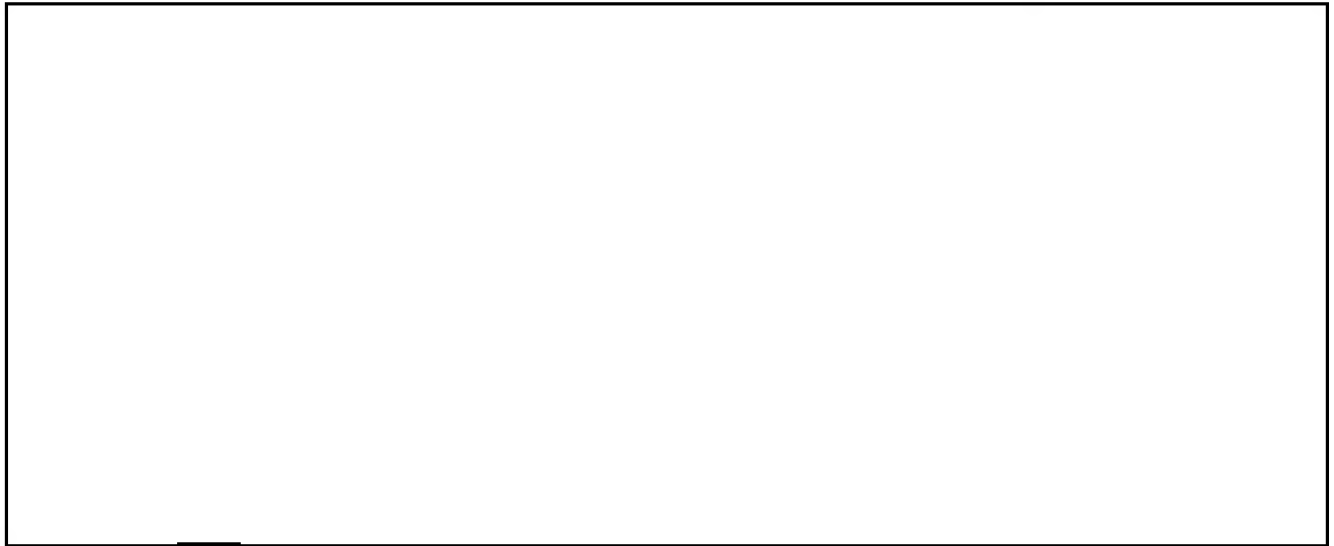
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D. ☐ B-3 Camera Test - Two sorties were flown in support of the modified "B" configuration.

E. ☐ "H" Lens Test - Fifteen sorties were flown for operational checkout of the new mirror installation and thermal modification.

F. ☐ COMPASS TRIP - One sortie was flown over the poppy field test site at Yuma, Arizona.

G. ☐ Pilot Training - ☐ completed flight training on 12 November 1973 and returned to Detachment "H" on 16 November 1973.

III. ☐ PILOT AND AIRCRAFT STATUS (AS OF 31 DECEMBER 1973)

A. Detachment "G" (Edwards AFB - North Base)

Aircraft 2 U-2R

Pilots ☐

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B. Detachment "H"

[REDACTED]

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Aircraft

2 U-2R

Pilots

[REDACTED]

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C.

[REDACTED]

Operationally Ready  
(Standby Status)

[REDACTED]

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IDEALIST

DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY AND PROGRESS

(1 October 1973 - 31 December 1973)

I. AIRFRAME

U-2R Flight Test and Operational Training Summary

1. IDEALIST Program accomplishments in U-2R aircraft since introduction include 12480.8 hours on 3826 sorties as of 31 December 1973.

2. Flight test and operational data are depicted below:

	<u>1 OCT-31 DEC</u> <u>FLIGHTS</u>	<u>1 OCT-31 DEC</u> <u>TIME</u>
1 - 051	47	144.5
2 - 053	47	167.0
3 - 054	50	245.1
4 - 055	<u>18</u>	<u>60.5</u>
TOTAL	162	617.1

II. PAYLOAD

A. "H" Camera S/N 003 - Completed in-plant mirror installation and thermal modifications, and was delivered to Detachment "G" for flight testing on 5 November 1973. The double image phenomenon apparent on "H" configuration S/N 002 was also experienced and corrected early in the S/N 003 test program. During the flight test program, a cager mod was also incorporated into the system to eliminate improper "cage commands" during article roll. The flight test program was completed on 7 December 1973 after 15 flights. "H" S/N 003 was shipped to Detachment "H" on 11 December for operational use.

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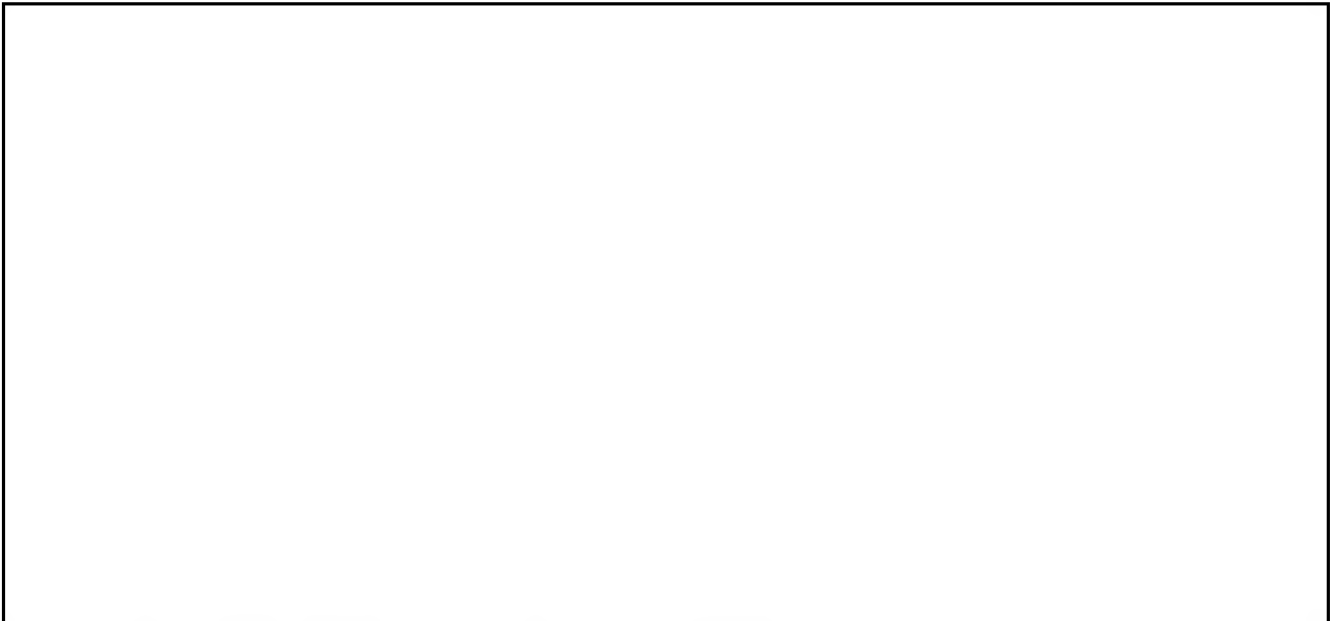
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F. LORAN Navigation System - Flight testing designed to determine the applicability of this system in U-2R operations has been placed in an indefinite hold status. During the third quarter, a decision will be made, in view of priorities, to resume testing or to continue the hold status.

G. Support to Customer II - [redacted] requirements for Article 060 were completed on 20 December 1973. Detachment "G" supported this program with 312 man-hours of tactical maintenance and 140 man-hours of avionics support.

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IV. [redacted] FACILITY UTILIZATION

The following data summarizes [redacted] facility use during the second quarter of FY 1974.

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PROJECT

CUSTOMER

1 OCT-31 DEC TESTS



I	11 *
II	5
II	5
HAVE GLIB	<u>2</u>

TOTAL

23

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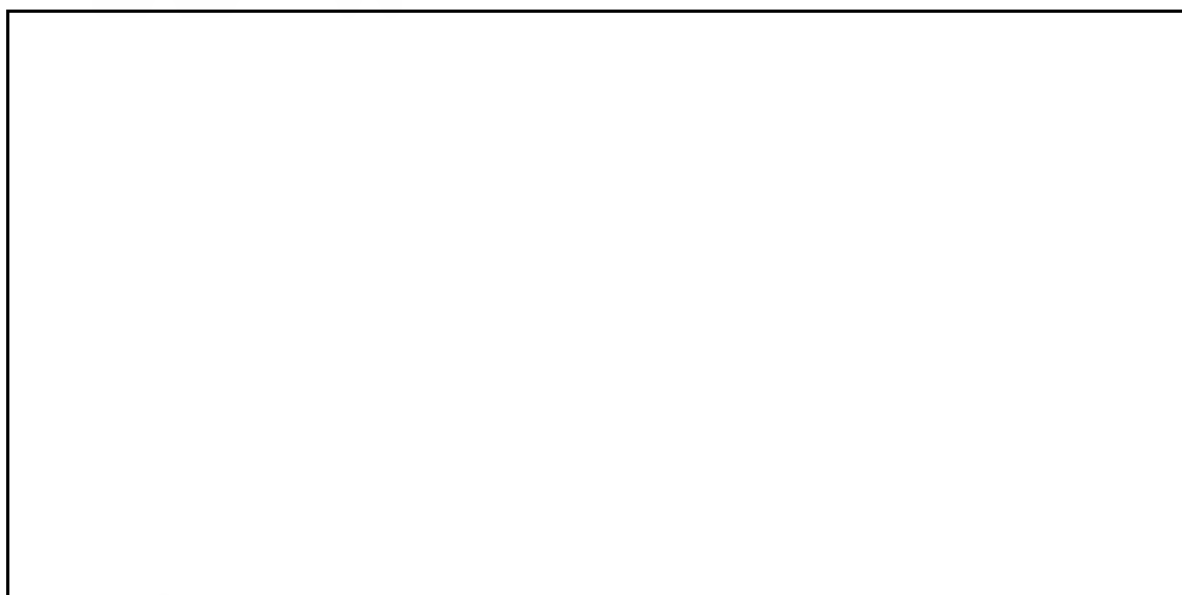
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V. AERO MEDICAL AND LIFE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

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A. Medical Activities



3. [redacted] is leaving OSA after 4 1/2 years of dedicated duty. During this period he has aggressively participated in developing new life support equipment for OSA and the USAF. [redacted] is an outstanding officer and will be sorely missed.

B. Life Support Activities

1. Prototype Helmet S1010 Pilot Protective Assembly - Comments from aircrew members who have flown the prototype units have been generally favorable. In order to provide more flexibility in testing, however, an adapter is being fabricated which will permit the helmets to be worn with any standard S1010 coverall. Testing will continue during the next quarter.

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2. Automatic Seat Kit - The [redacted] device feasibility study has been completed and the final report was submitted to Headquarters. Live, parachute-drop tests were successfully completed on 19 October 1973 in Buffalo, New York. A short film was also forwarded with the final report that clearly illustrates the application of this device to the U-2R survival seat kit.

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3. Shark Deterrent Screen - Prototype shark screens have been received from both the David Clark Company [redacted] [redacted] These screens are being forwarded to Dr. C. Scott Johnson of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, San Diego, California, for evaluation. Dr. Johnson is the original developer of this device and has volunteered to functionally test these new items.

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4. Batteries - New solid battery packs are now in the supply system for the ASR-100A survival radio. These packs replace the six penlight batteries currently in use which have been troublesome in both short life span and corrosion characteristics.

5. U-2R Survival Kit Rations - The CD-7 survival ration utilized in the past by both the IDEALIST Program and the Agency programs are no longer available, nor does anyone still use them except OSA. Natick Laboratories in Massachusetts, the source of tube food used for sustenance on high flights in the U-2R, have submitted a sample ration similar to the CD-7 which is presently under evaluation at OTS. If found acceptable, Natick has tentatively agreed to furnish rations in small quantities or as needed.

C. Training Activities

1. SAFE Meeting - [redacted] Headquarters Survival Superintendent, attended the annual Survival and Flight Equipment Association meeting from 8 - 11 October 1973 in Phoenix, Arizona.

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2. Survival Supply Account - [ ] was TDY to Detachment "G" the week of 10 December to receive the inventory of the survival supply account in preparation for the departure of their Survival Instructor. Future survival training exercises for IDEALIST pilots will be conducted by the Headquarters Survival Superintendent.

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3. Parachute Inventory Review - [ ] also visited the Lockheed Parachute Facility in Burbank, California, to review the present U-2R RQ-225 parachute inventory.

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